

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN COME-00

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COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/LENGLESON

COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS

STATE/AF/C/JHDIGGS

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R 182053Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, GB

SUBJECT: GRAND POUBARA DAM PROJECT

REF: A. LIBREVILLE 352 B. LIBREVILLE 126

1. REF (A) REPORTS END 1976 AS COMPLETION DATE FOR SEEG FEASIBILITY REPORT. INFORMATION COMMERCE RECEIVED FROM MR. JOHN OLSON OF BLACK AND VEATCH INTERNATIONAL RAISES QUESTIONS AND CONCERN OVER DIRECTION OF OUR ACTIVITIES.

2. OLSON CONTACTED USDOC ON RETURN FROM LIBREVILLE. AT HIS MID-FEBRUARY MEETING SEEG, DIRECTOR GENERAL TOLD OLSON HE WAS PLANNING TO GO TO PARIS SHORTLY TO BRING BACK A FIRST DRAFT OF FEASIBILITY REPORT. EMBASSY'S UPDATED INFORMATION WOULD INDICATE EITHER COMPLETION OF STUDY DELAYED FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON OR CONSULTANT IN PARIS HAS RECEIVED AN EXTENDED SCOPE OF WORK. IN EITHER CASE, IT WOULD SEEM FRENCH CONNECTION EXISTS. COMMERCE WOULD BE INTERESTED KNOWING NAME OF SEEG'S CONSULTANT.

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3. IN LIGHT ABOVE INFORMATION IT IS FELT A REVIEW

AND CLARIFICATION OF SUBJECT PROJECT SHOULD BE MADE
AT HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL GOG. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE,
COMMERCE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING U.S. CONSULTANTS AND DESIGN
CONSTRUCTORS TO VISIT LIBREVILLE, AS EMBASSY HAS
REQUESTED. COMMERCE NEEDS TO KNOW SPECIFICALLY WHAT
ROLE U.S. CONSULTANTS CAN EXPECT TO PLAY BETWEEN NOW AND
END OF 1976. ALSO, BASED ON THIS DATE, WHAT IS THE
DESIGN CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR THE PROJECT? INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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